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Docket No.: AIA-113-PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Confirmation No.: TO BE ASSIGNED

Applicant: Hirofumi AOKI et al.

Art Unit: TO BE ASSIGNED

Filed: March 31, 2006

Examiner: TO BE ASSIGNED

Docket No: AIA-113-PCT

Customer No: 28892

For: Method for Predicting Formation of Spots Using a Gene Group
Exhibiting Increased Expression at a Spot Site as an
Indicator and Screening Method for Spot Formation Inhibitors

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

US Patent & Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop: PATENT APPLICATIONS
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

After assigning a serial number to the above-captioned application and before calculating the fee, please undertake the following changes:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.